

<p>1.</p> <p>Select a [poem] you have read and write an essay in which you explain the techniques the [poet] uses to guide his audience's responses to the central characters and the action. You might consider the effect on the audience of things like setting, the use of comparable and contrasting characters, and the characters' responses to each other. Support your argument with specific references to the [poem]. Do not give a plot summary.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">- D -</p> <p>Title: "The Construction Of Lyric Subjectivity In Shelley's 'Ozymandias'"</p> <p>Author: Zachary Sng</p> <p>Source: <u>Studies in Romanticism</u></p> <p>Abstract:</p> <p>Percy Bysshe Shelley's poem "Ozymandias" is an intentionally failed poem, demonstrating Shelley's attitude that he had arrived at the limits of language and knowledge. The poem's central character, a ruined statue, has proven to be a failed speaker, and the "I" of the poem Shelley uses to refer to himself as well.</p>
<p>2.</p> <p>Choose a work of recognized literary merit in which a specific inanimate object (e.g., a seashell, a handkerchief, a painting) is important, and write an essay in which you show how two or three of the purposes the object serves are related to one another.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">- A -</p> <p>Title: "A Note on John Keats"</p> <p>Author: Arthur Symons</p> <p>Source: <u>The John Keats Memorial Volume</u></p> <p>Abstract:</p> <p>An English critic, poet, dramatist, short story writer, and editor, Symons initially gained notoriety as an English decadent in the 1890s, and he eventually established himself as one of the most important critics of the modern era. His sensitive translations from the works of Paul Verlaine and Stephane Mallarme offered English poets an introduction to the poetry of the French Symbolists. Though he was a gifted translator and linguist, it was as a critic that Symons made his most important contributions to literature. His <u>The Symbolist Movement in Literature</u> provided his English contemporaries with an appropriate vocabulary with which to define their new aesthetic—one that communicated their concern with dreamlike states, imagination, and a reality that exists beyond the boundaries of the sense. Symons also discerned that the concept of the symbol as a vehicle by which a "hitherto unknown reality was suddenly revealed" could become the basis for an entire modern aesthetic, and he therefore laid the foundation for much of modern poetic theory. In the excerpt below, Symons demonstrates how Keats's poetry evinces the theory of "art for art's sake" and his affinity with the poets of the decadent movement.</p>
<p>3.</p> <p>Many works of literature deal with political or social issues. Choose a novel or play that focuses on a political or social issue. Then write an essay in which you analyze how the author uses literary elements to explore this issue and explain how the issue contributes to the meaning of the work as a whole. Do not merely summarize the plot.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">- F -</p> <p>Title: "Reading Keats, Thinking Politics: An Introduction."</p> <p>Authors: Emily Rohrbach and Emily Sun</p> <p>Source: <u>Studies in Romanticism</u></p> <p>Abstract:</p> <p>An introduction is presented in which the editors discuss reports within the issue on topics including poet John Keats, Keats' affect on political thinking, and Romantic poetry.</p>

<p style="text-align: center;">4.</p> <p>Although literary critics have tended to praise the unique in literary characterizations, many authors have employed the stereotyped character successfully. Select one work of acknowledged literary merit and in a well-written essay, show how the conventional or stereotyped character or characters function to achieve the author's purpose.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">- B -</p> <p>Title: "Stoned Shelley: Revolutionary Tactics and Women Under the Influence"</p> <p>Authors: Katherine Singer</p> <p>Source: <u>Studies in Romanticism</u></p> <p>Abstract: A poetry criticism of the poems "Prometheus Unbound," and "The Triumph of Life," by Percy Bysshe Shelley is presented. Particular focus is given to the depiction of drug use in the works. The depiction of women, gender inequities, and the nature of drug use are examined. The connection between thinking influenced by drug use and societal change are also explored.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">5.</p> <p>Select a line or so of poetry, or a moment or scene in a novel, epic poem, or play that you find especially memorable. Write an essay in which you identify the line or the passage, explain its relationship to the work in which it is found, and analyze the reasons for its effectiveness.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">- G -</p> <p>Title: History without Footnotes: An Account of Keats' Urn</p> <p>Author: Cleanth Brooks, Jr.</p> <p>Source: The Sewanee Review</p> <p>Abstract: Brooks is the most prominent of the New Critics, an influential movement in American criticism that also included Allen Tate, John Crowe Ransom, and Robert Penn Warren. Although the New Critics did not subscribe to a single set of principles, they believed that a work of literature had to be examined as an object in itself through a process of close analysis of symbol, image, and metaphor. For Brooks, metaphor was the primary element of literary art, and the effect of that metaphor of primary importance. In the following excerpt, he analyzes "Ode on a Grecian Urn" to determine the relationship of the final two lines to the poem's total context.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">6.</p> <p>"The true test of comedy is that it shall awaken thoughtful laughter." Choose a novel, play or long poem in which a scene or character awakens "thoughtful laughter" in the reader. Write an essay in which you show why this laughter is "thoughtful" and how it contributes to the meaning of the work.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">- I -</p> <p>Title: Keats and the 'Spirit that Laughest'</p> <p>Author: Martin Halpern</p> <p>Source: Keats-Shelley Journal</p> <p>Abstract: Halpern is an American playwright and literary critic. In the excerpt below, he comments upon humorous aspects of several of Keats' poems following Endymion.</p>

<p>7.</p> <p>Choose a [poet] who responds in some significant way to [suffering]. Write a well developed essay in which you analyze the poet's understanding of [suffering]...and the significance for the work as a whole.</p>		<p style="text-align: center;">- C -</p> <p>Title: Keats and Adversity Author: Martha Hale Shackford Source: The Sewanee Review Abstract: Shackford was an American literary critic and educator. In the excerpt below, she examines the impact of Keats' personal misfortune on his poetry, concluding that while he recognized the "unescapable suffering and struggle in human life," he also maintained a belief in humankind to overcome these obstacles and view them as "having a meaning greater than individual pain or grief."</p>
<p>8.</p> <p>From the works that you have studied in school, choose a novel, play, or epic poem that you may initially have thought was conventional and tame but that you now value for its "uncivilized free and wild thinking." Write an essay in which you explain what constitutes its "uncivilized free and wild thinking" and how that thinking is central to the value of the work as a whole. Support your ideas with specific references to the work you choose.</p>		<p style="text-align: center;">- H -</p> <p>Title: The Letters of Keats Author: A.C. Bradley Source: Oxford Lectures on Poetry Abstract: Bradley was a renowned Shakespearean scholar and influential literary critic. His focus in the excerpt below, originally published in 1909, is Keats's intellectual breadth as manifested in his letters, which for Bradley contain the key to the form and meaning of the poetry. According to Bradley, the letters reveal a Keats who defies the various accepted depictions: he is neither a pale, fragile creature, a sensualist, nor an aloof observer of life. Bradley stresses in particular the singular power of Keats' vision, stating that "It would not be easy to find anything written at the same age by another poet at that time which shows more openness of mind, more knowledge of human nature, or more original power of thought...."</p>
<p>9.</p> <p>In questioning the value of literary realism, Flannery O'Connor has written, "I am interested in making a good case for distortion because I am coming to believe that it is the only way to make people see." Write an essay in which you "make a good case for distortion" as distinct from literary realism. Analyze how important elements of the work you choose are "distorted" and explain how these distortions contribute to the effectiveness of the work. Avoid plot summary.</p>		<p style="text-align: center;">- E -</p> <p>Title: Introduction and John Keats Author: Harold Bloom Source: The Visionary company: A Reading of English Romantic Poetry Abstract: Bloom, an American critic and editor, is best known as the formulator of "revisioinism," a controversial theory of literary creation based on the concept that all poets are subject to the influence of earlier poets, and that, to develop their own voice, they attempt to overcome this influence through a deliberate process of "creative correction" which Bloom calls "misreading." Bloom also extended this theory, introduced in 1973 in his The Anxiety of Influcence, to include the critic or readers as another willful misreader of literary texts. His theories are largely based on his reading sof Enlgish poetry from the Romantic period to the present. His essay below focuses on Keats imaginative faculty as evidenced in the odes.</p>